

Application No. 09/732,205  
Amendment dated January 6, 2006  
Reply to Office Action of October 6, 2005

## **REMARKS**

### **Status Of Application**

Claims 1-11 are pending in the application; the status of the claims is as follows:

Claims 1-4 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,289,178 B1 to Kazami ("Kazami") in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,945,424 to Hiroki et al. ("Hiroki").

Claims 5-10 are allowed.

### **Claim Amendments**

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim certain elements of a disclosed invention. These changes do not introduce any new matter.

### **35 U.S.C. § 103(a) Rejection**

The rejection of claims 1-4 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a), as being unpatentable over Kazami in view of Hiroki, is respectfully traversed based on the following.

Claim 1 has been amended to depend from claim 5, which claim is allowable as stated in the Office Action. Accordingly, claim 1 is allowable because it depends from an allowed claim.

Claims 2-4 depend from claim 1 and are therefore also allowable.

Claim 11 has been amended to incorporate subject matter which the Office Action states is allowable.

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Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the rejection of claims 1-4 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kazami in view of Hiroki et al., be reconsidered and withdrawn.

### **CONCLUSION**

Wherefore, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, this application is considered to be in condition for allowance, and an early reconsideration and a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited.

This Amendment does not increase the number of independent claims, does not increase the total number of claims, and does not present any multiple dependency claims. Accordingly, no fee based on the number or type of claims is currently due. However, if a fee, other than the issue fee, is due, please charge this fee to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's Deposit Account No. 18-1260.


If an extension of time is required to enable this document to be timely filed and there is no separate Petition for Extension of Time filed herewith, this document is to be construed as also constituting a Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) for a period of time sufficient to enable this document to be timely filed.

Any other fee required for such Petition for Extension of Time and any other fee required by this document pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17, other than the issue fee,

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and not submitted herewith should be charged to Sidley Austin Brown & Wood LLP's  
Deposit Account No. 18-1260. Any refund should be credited to the same account.

Respectfully submitted,

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